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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WOMEN'S BAR FOUNDATION TO CONFER PUBLIC INTEREST SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF CHIEF JUSTICE MCMORROW

The Women's Bar Foundation (WBF) will confer a scholarship in honor of Illinois Supreme Court Chief Justice Mary Ann G. McMorrow during its 2002 Scholarship Award Luncheon to be held Monday, October 7 at the Palmer House Hilton Hotel in Chicago.

"Chief Justice McMorrow is a long-time supporter of the Foundation, and her career exemplifies working for the public interest," Women's Bar Foundation President Sharon King said.

The scholarship, the first of its kind given by the WBF, is being awarded to a law student who has demonstrated a commitment to working in non-profit, governmental, legal services or other legal public interest areas. The winner, Stacey Tutt from Clinton, who attends the University of Illinois College of Law, will receive the one year, \$5,000 award from Chief Justice McMorrow.

"The Women's Bar Foundation and the important work it does has always been of great importance to me, and to think that I will now have an award presented in my honor is deeply gratifying," Chief Justice McMorrow said.

The luncheon will feature Linda Fairstein, chief of sex crimes prosecution unit of the New York County District Attorney's Office, and best-selling crime novelist of books such as Final Jeopardy, Likely to Die, Cold Hit and The Deadhouse.

The first woman to head any branch of government in Illinois, Chief Justice McMorrow became Chief Justice September 5, and continuing her path as a pioneer in opening up opportunities for women.

She was the only woman in her graduating class at Loyola University School of Law in 1953 and was elected class president and associate editor of the law review.

She also was the first woman to prosecute major criminal cases in the Cook County State's Attorney's office and in 1992 became the first woman elected to the Illinois Supreme Court.

MORE

Chief Justice McMorrow

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Chief Justice McMorrow was elected a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1976; was assigned to the Appellate Court in 1985 and was elected to that court in 1986, where she was the first woman to serve as chairperson of the Executive Committee of the Appellate Court.

She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2002 Justice John Paul Stevens Award; the Medal of Excellence from the Loyola University School of Law Alumni Association; the Freedom Award from John Marshall School of Law and the Illinois Bar Foundation's Fellows Award for Distinguished Service to Law and Society.

Chief Justice McMorrow is a past president of the Women's Bar Association of Illinois and recipient of its highest award, the Myra Bradwell Woman of Achievement Award, named for the first woman lawyer in Illinois.

She is a member or former member of several bar associations and judicial boards and associations.

Chief Justice McMorrow was a faculty adviser at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada, and has often served as a faculty member at Illinois Judicial Conferences. She has lectured extensively in seminars and symposiums for judges, lawyers, social workers, psychiatrists and students, and has been active in community programs.

She is a lifelong resident of Chicago, a widow and the mother of one daughter.